

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00
EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEA-00 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01
INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 SAL-01
OIC-02 /109 W

-----041829Z 023738/41

P 041452Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5660
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1598

LIMDIS

FROM US LOSDEL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS
SUBJECT: LOS: INDIAN POSITION

1. AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON WAS INFORMED BY A SENIOR WESTERN EUROPEAN OFFICIAL ATTENDING CURRENT LOS CONSULTATIONS GENEVA THAT SOURCE HAD LEARNED THAT THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED TO COOPERATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PARALLEL SYSTEM OF EXPLOITATION OF THE DEEP SEA-BED. UNDER PARALLEL SYSTEM BOTH STATES (AND THEIR NATIONALS) AND INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITY HAVE RIGHT TO EXPLOIT. SOURCE COMMENTED TO AMB. RICHARDSON THAT HE HAD THEREFORE BEEN SURPRISED WHEN INDIAN LOS DELEGATION CHIEF JAGOTA HAD TAKEN A HARD LINE IN HIS OPENING STATEMENT AT EVENSEN MEETING. (JAGOTA IN EFFECT PROPOSED PHASING OUT RIGHT OF STATES TO EXPLOIT). SOURCE NOTED THAT JAGOTA HAD TAKEN MODERATE, GENERALIZED LINE AT

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RECENTLY CONCLUDED ASIAN-AFRICAN LEGAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING IN BAGHDAD WITH SOURCE UNDERSTOOD WAS BECAUSE JAGOTA WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS AT THAT TIME FROM HIS GOVERNMENT TO DO SO.

2. AS EMB KNOWS, INDIA HAS TAKEN HARDLINE AGAINST PARALLEL SYSTEM IN THE PAST, AND JAGOTA'S STANCE AT

CURRENT LOS CONSULTATIONS IS GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH THAT PREVIOUS POSITION. REPORT OF AMB. RICHARDSON'S SOURCE ABOUT CHANGED STANCE OF GOI IS THEREFORE OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST. CAN EMB SHED ANY LIGHT ON POSSIBLE CHANGE OF INDIAN POSITION? US LOSDEL APPRECIATES AWKWARDNESS MAKING ANY DIRECT INQUIRY TO GOI. SUBJECT TO ANY GUIDANCE DEPT MAY HAVE, HOWEVER, CHARGE MIGHT WISH, IN COURSE OF AN ALREADY SCHEDULED MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER OR SENIOR GOI OFFICIAL LIKELY TO BE CONVERSANT WITH LOS MATTERS, TO PROBE LIGHTLY ON GENERAL MATTER OF LOS MATTER OF INDIA'S STANCE ON SYSTEM OF EXPLOITATION OF DEEP SEABED. CATTO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA01598
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770075-0643
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770393/aaaadehj.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 44c7adbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3210610
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS: INDIAN POSITION
TAGS: PLOS, IN, LOS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/44c7adbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009